

Appl. No. 10/676,955
Atty. Docket No. 8778CC
Amdt. dated June 7, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 5, 2004
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A detachable head for use with an electric toothbrush, said electric toothbrush having a handle with a motor disposed therein that is operatively connected to a shaft, said detachable head comprising:

an elongate body having a longitudinal axis and a first end and a second end opposite said first end, wherein said first end may be detachably coupled to the electric toothbrush;

a first bristle holder ~~having a first plurality of bristle tufts disposed thereon, wherein said first bristle holder is~~ located at said second end of said elongate body and wherein said first bristle holder can oscillate about an axis substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, said first bristle holder having a top surface and a first plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts forms an acute angle with said top surface of said first bristle holder; and

a second bristle holder ~~disposed between said first bristle holder and said first end, said second bristle holder having a top surface and a second plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said second plurality of bristle tufts forms an acute angle that form an acute angle with said top surface of said second bristle holder.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The detachable head of claim 1, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said second plurality of bristle tufts extends ~~said second plurality of bristle tufts extend~~ in a direction toward said first end.

3. (Currently Amended) The detachable head of claim 2, wherein said second bristle holder further comprises a third plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said third plurality of bristle tufts forms an acute angle with said top surface of said second bristle holder, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said third plurality of bristle tufts extends in a direction toward said first end that form an acute angle with said top surface of said second bristle holder and extend in a direction away from said first end.

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4. (Original) The detachable head of claim 3, wherein said third plurality of bristle tufts comprise a first bristle tuft and a second bristle tuft adjacent said first bristle tuft, wherein said first bristle tuft is shorter than said second bristle tuft.
5. (Original) The detachable head of claim 4, wherein said third plurality of bristle tufts further comprise a third bristle tuft disposed adjacent said second bristle tuft opposite said first bristle tuft, wherein said third bristle tuft is shorter than said second bristle tuft.
6. (Original) The detachable head of claim 5, wherein said first bristle tuft and said third bristle tuft of said third plurality of bristle tufts have the same length.
7. (Currently Amended) The detachable head of claim 2, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said second plurality of bristle tufts include two bristle tufts having the same length extends in a direction toward said second end.
8. (Currently Amended) The detachable head of claim 2, wherein said first plurality of bristle tufts includes a first and a second bristle tuft forming an acute angle with a top surface of said first bristle holder.
9. (Cancelled).
10. (Currently Amended) The detachable head of claim 98, wherein said second bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts extends in a direction away from said first bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts.
11. (Currently Amended) The detachable head of claim 98, wherein said second bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts extends in the same direction as said first bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts.

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12. (Currently Amended) The detachable head of claim 98, wherein said first bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts is shorter than said second bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts.
13. (Currently Amended) The detachable head of claim 98, wherein said first plurality of bristle tufts further includes third and fourth bristle tufts disposed substantially perpendicular to said top surface of said first bristle holder.
14. (Original) The detachable head of claim 13, wherein said third and fourth bristle tufts of said first plurality of bristle tufts are shorter than said first tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts.
15. (Original) The detachable head of claim 1, wherein said first bristle holder has a slot for receiving the shaft of the electric toothbrush.
16. (Original) The detachable head of claim 1, wherein the shaft of the electric toothbrush can pass under said second bristle holder.
17. (Original) The detachable head of claim 1, wherein said second bristle holder is movable.
18. (Original) The detachable head of claim 17, wherein said second bristle holder can reciprocate.
19. (Currently Amended) An electric toothbrush, comprising:
 - a handle with a motor disposed therein that is operatively connected to a shaft;
 - a head having a longitudinal axis, a first end, and a second end opposite said first end, wherein said second end is at point furthest from said handle;
 - a first bristle holder disposed on said head having a first plurality of bristle tufts disposed thereon, wherein said first bristle holder is located at said second end of said head, said first bristle holder having a top surface and a first plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one

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bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts forms an acute angle with said top surface of said first bristle holder and wherein said first bristle holder is operatively connected to said shaft to oscillate said first bristle holder about an axis substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis; and

~~a second bristle holder disposed between said first bristle holder and said first end, said second bristle holder having a top surface and a second plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said second plurality of bristle tufts forms that form an acute angle with said top surface of said second bristle holder, wherein said second bristle holder can reciprocate along or transverse to said longitudinal axis and a neck extending between said handle and said head.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The electric toothbrush of claim 19, wherein at least one tuft of said second plurality of bristle tufts extend extends in a direction toward said handle.
21. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 20, wherein said head is detachable from the electric toothbrush.
22. (Currently Amended) The electric toothbrush of claim 20, wherein said second bristle holder further comprises a third plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one tuft of said third plurality of bristle tufts forms that form an acute angle with said top surface of said second bristle holder and ~~which extend extends~~ in a direction away from said handle.
23. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 22, wherein said third plurality of bristle tufts comprise a first bristle tuft and a second bristle tuft adjacent said first bristle tuft, wherein said first bristle tuft is shorter than said second bristle tuft.
24. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 23, wherein said third plurality of bristle tufts further comprise a third bristle tuft disposed adjacent said second bristle tuft opposite said first bristle tuft, wherein said third bristle tuft is shorter than said second bristle tuft.

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25. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 24, wherein said first bristle tuft and said third bristle tuft of said third plurality of bristle tufts have the same length.
26. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 20, wherein said second plurality of bristle tufts include two bristle tufts having the same length.
27. (Cancelled).
28. (Currently Amended) The electric toothbrush of claim ~~27~~20, wherein said first plurality of bristle tufts ~~include~~ includes a first and second bristle tuft forming an acute angle with said top surface of said first bristle holder.
29. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 28, wherein said second bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts extends in a direction away from said first bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts.
30. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 28, wherein said second bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts extends in the same direction as said first bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts.
31. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 28, wherein said first bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts is shorter than said second bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts.
32. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 28, wherein said first plurality of bristle tufts further includes third and fourth bristle tufts disposed substantially perpendicular to said surface of said first bristle holder.
33. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 32, wherein said third and fourth bristle tufts of said first plurality of bristle tufts are shorter than said first tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts.

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34. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 19, wherein said first bristle holder has a slot for receiving said shaft.
35. (Original) The electric toothbrush of claim 19, wherein said shaft passes under said second bristle holder.
36. (Cancelled).
37. (Cancelled).
38. (Currently Amended) A detachable head for use with an electric toothbrush, said electric toothbrush having a handle with a motor disposed therein that is operatively connected to a shaft, said detachable head comprising:
- an elongate body having a longitudinal axis and a first end and a second end opposite said first end, wherein said first end may be detachably coupled to the electric toothbrush;
- ~~a first bristle holder having a first plurality of bristle tufts disposed thereon, wherein said first bristle holder is located at said second end of said elongate body, wherein said first bristle holder can oscillate about an axis substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, said first bristle holder having a top surface and a first plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts forms an acute angle with said top surface of said first bristle holder; and wherein said first bristle holder can oscillate about an axis substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis; and~~
- a second bristle holder disposed between said first bristle holder and said first end, said second bristle holder having a top surface and first, second and third rows of bristle tufts, wherein said second row of bristle tufts is disposed between said first and third rows of bristle tufts, said bristle tufts of said first, second, and third rows of bristle tufts forming an acute angle with said top surface of said second bristle holder, said bristle tufts of said first and third rows of bristle tufts extending in a direction toward said first end and said bristle tufts of said second row of bristle tufts extending in a direction toward said second end.

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39. (Original) The detachable head of claim 38, wherein said bristle tufts of said first, second and third rows have a length and wherein said length differs between adjacent bristle tufts within each of said first, second and third rows of bristle tufts.
40. (Original) The detachable head of claim 39, wherein said bristle tufts of said first, second, and third rows have a cross-sectional area and wherein said cross-sectional area differs between adjacent bristle tufts within each of said first, second, and third rows of bristle tufts.
41. (Cancelled).
42. (New) A detachable head for use with an electric toothbrush, said electric toothbrush having a handle with a motor disposed therein that is operatively connected to a shaft, said detachable head comprising:
- an elongate body having a longitudinal axis and a first end and a second end opposite said first end, wherein said first end may be detachably coupled to the electric toothbrush;
- a first bristle holder located at said second end of said second end of said toothbrush, said first bristle holder having a top surface and a first plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said first plurality of bristle tufts forms an acute angle with said top surface of said first bristle holder; and
- a second bristle holder located between said first bristle holder and said first end of said toothbrush, said second bristle holder having a top surface and a second plurality of bristle tufts, wherein at least one bristle tuft of said second plurality of bristle tufts forms an acute angle with said top surface of said second bristle holder.
43. (New) The detachable head of claim 42, wherein said first bristle holder can oscillate about an axis substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis.
44. (New) The detachable head of claim 42, wherein said second bristle holder can reciprocate along or transverse to said longitudinal axis.

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45. (New) The detachable head of claim 42, wherein said first bristle holder can oscillate about an axis substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, and wherein said second bristle holder can reciprocate along or transverse to said longitudinal axis.
46. (New) The detachable head of claim 45, wherein said second bristle holder comprises first, second and third rows of bristle tufts, wherein said second row of bristle tufts is disposed between said first and third rows of rows of bristle tufts, and wherein at least one of said bristle tufts of each of said first, second, and third rows of bristle tufts forms an acute angle with said top surface of said second bristle holder, and wherein at least one of said bristle tufts of said first and third rows of bristle tufts extends in a direction toward said first end and at least one of said bristle tufts of said second row of bristle tufts extends in a direction toward said second end.
47. (New) The detachable head of claim 1, wherein said second bristle holder is disposed between said first bristle holder and said first end.
48. (New) The detachable head of claim 19, wherein said second bristle holder is disposed between said first bristle holder and said first end.
49. (New) The detachable head of claim 47, wherein said second bristle holder is movable.
50. (New) The detachable head of claim 48, wherein said first bristle holder is movable.
51. (New) The detachable head of claim 49, wherein said second bristle holder can reciprocate along or transverse to said longitudinal axis.
52. (New) The detachable head of claim 50, wherein said first bristle holder can oscillate about an axis substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis.